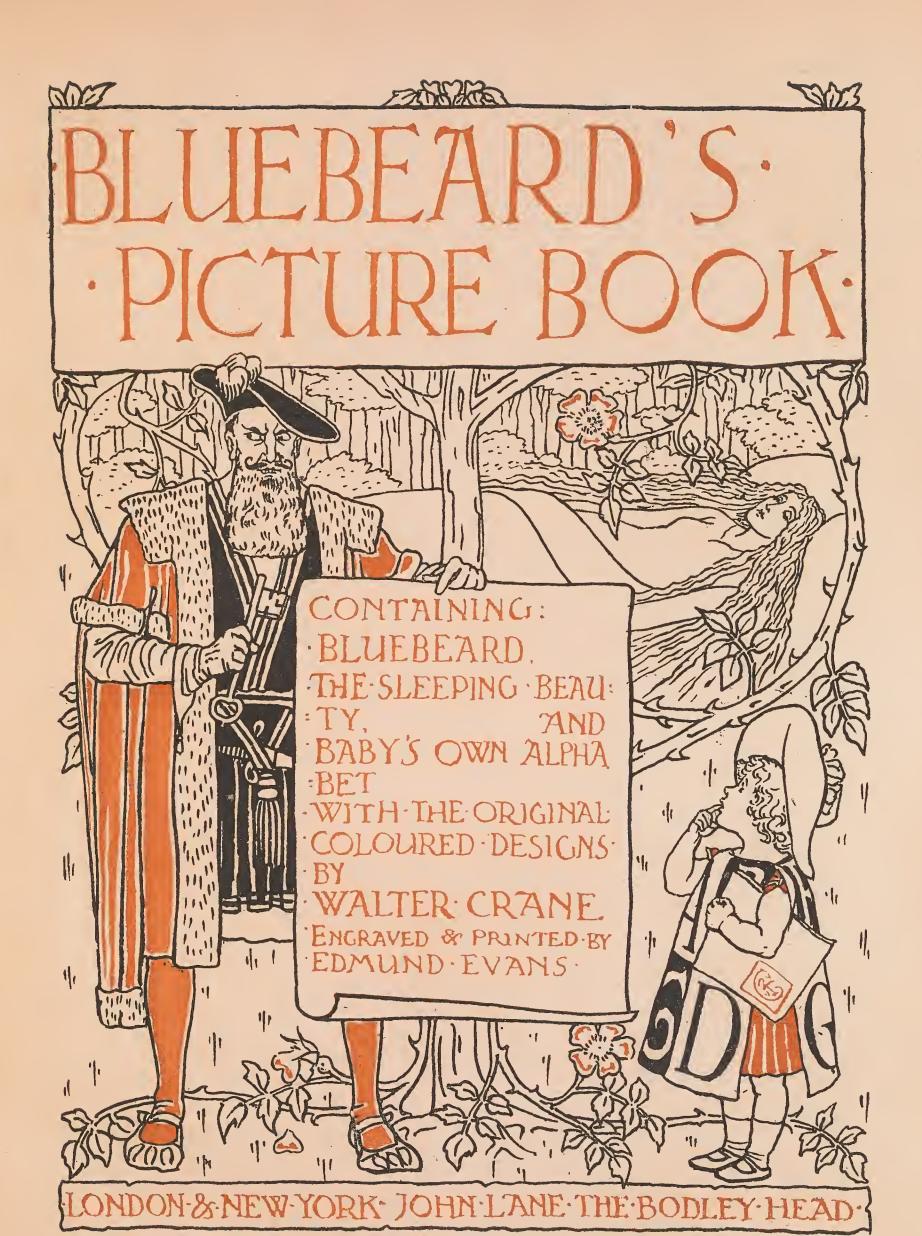


From the library of

MISS ELIZABETH KEAN

Presenteding Miss Ducy H. Nean April 1925.







LUEBEARD'S key, no doubt, unlocked many mysteries, and he may have had among his treasures a picture-book, if only to amuse his wives with, or to divert their attention from his own dark designs: but it must not be supposed that BLUEBEARD although he is not free

designs: but it must not be supposed that BLUEBEARD. although he is not free from the suspicion of having put several beauties to sleep in presenting himself again with THE SLEEPING BEAUTY is at all responsible for her enchanted slumber, or that either BLUEBEARD OF THE SLEEPING BEAUTY are concerned with BABY'S OWN ALPHABET- except for the spelling of their own names.

These time honoured personages must, in their present form be rather regarded as the figures in the antique tapestry which decorates the storied walls of the festive nursery guest hall, where His Babyship invites, by his letters patent, a motley company of old friends in fancy dress for his disport, and for the pleasure of all contemporary despots of the rattle, not to speak of the larger baby-public content to look over the heads

on the front bench.

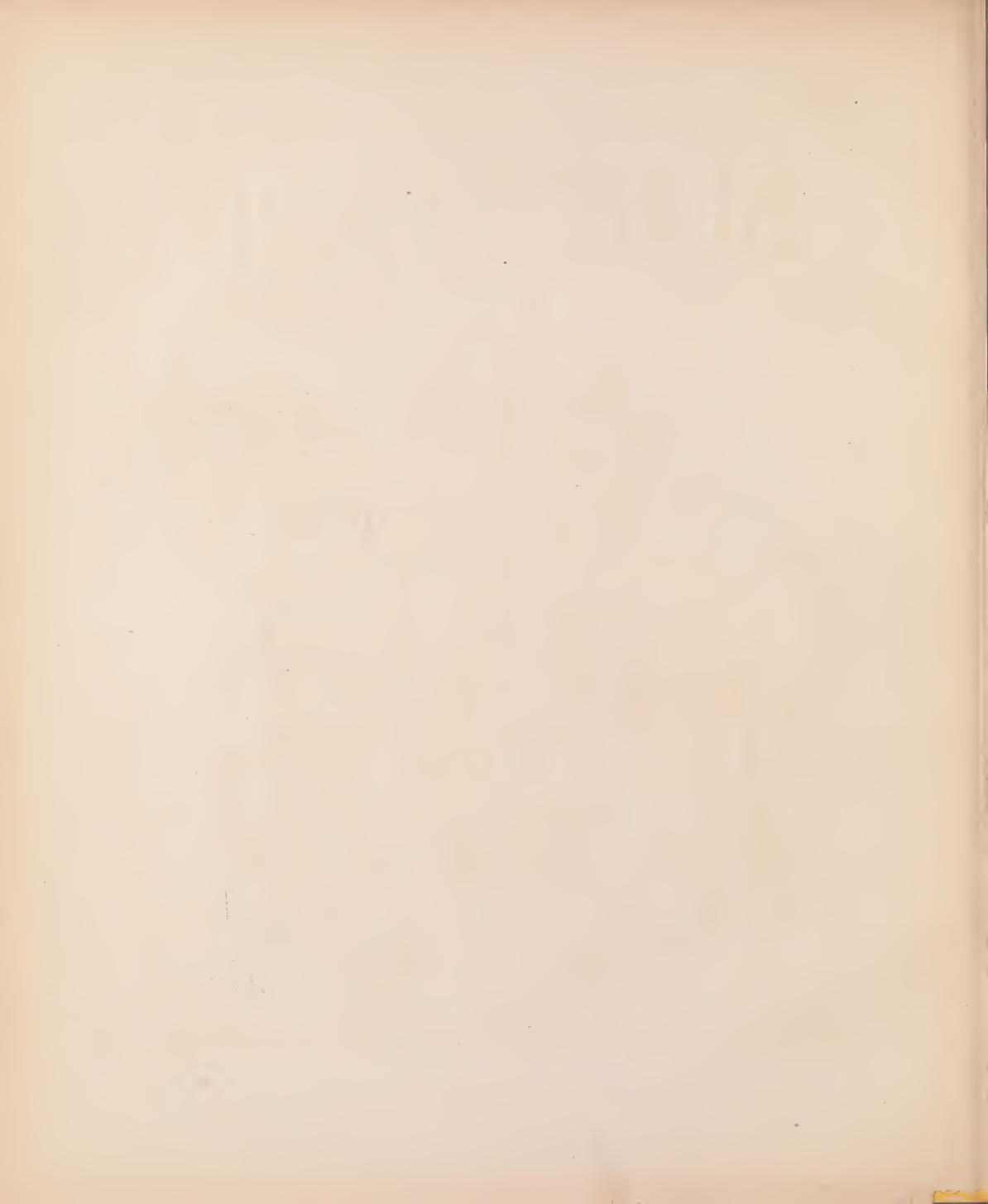
Or, 'an it may please you, we may take, as the more natural order our A.B.C. first (as indeed we should) to represent the "curtain-raiser" - something light and playful before the heavy tragedy of BLUEBEARD, & the fairy romance of THE SLEEPING BEAUTY It is all one - at least they are all in one book now: and it is hoped, both by attist and publisher, that they will "fill the bill", and draw the baby-public, small and great, as of old.

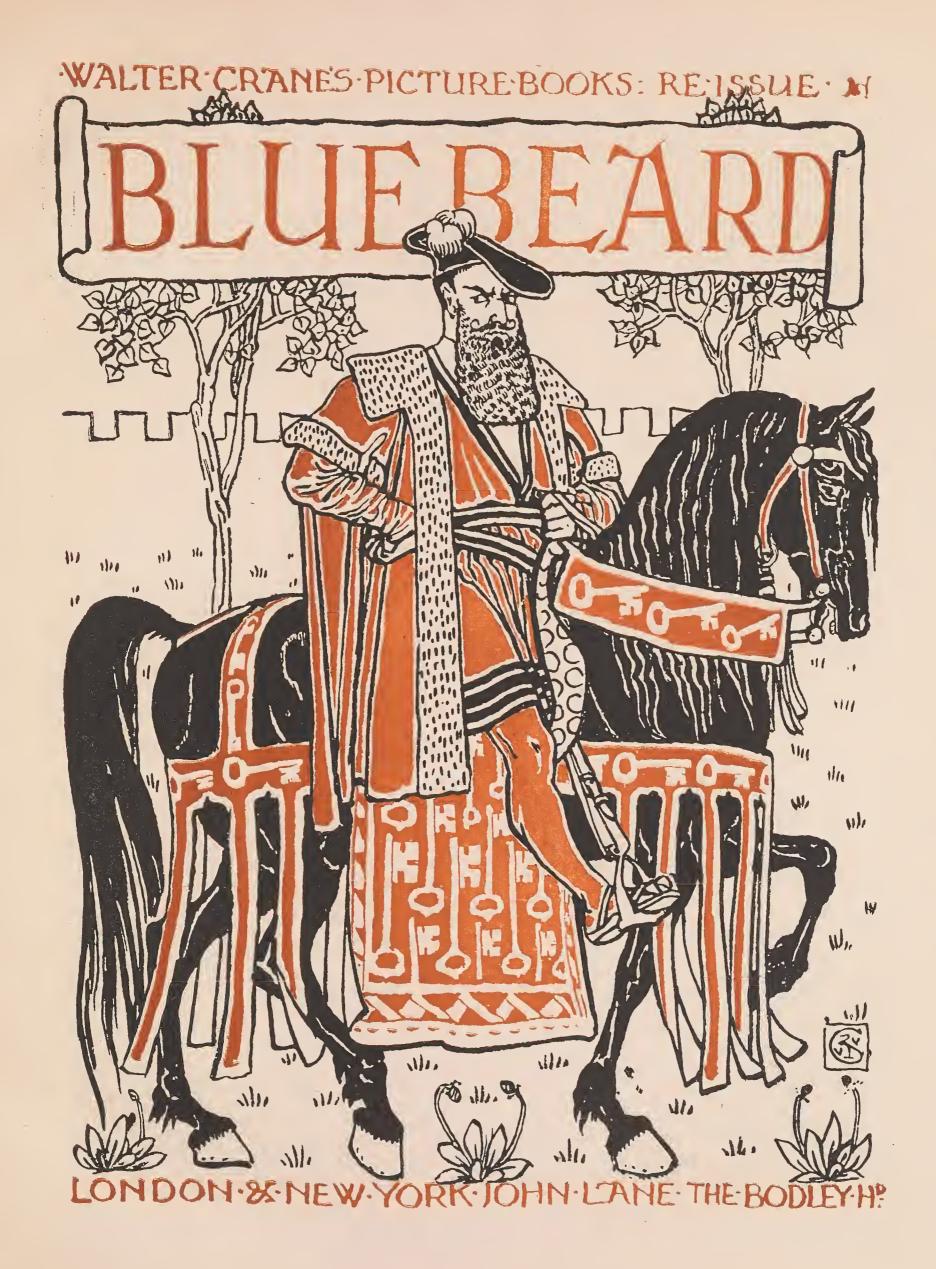
At all events one may feel certain that when BABY has learnt his OWN ALPHABEThe will be sure to

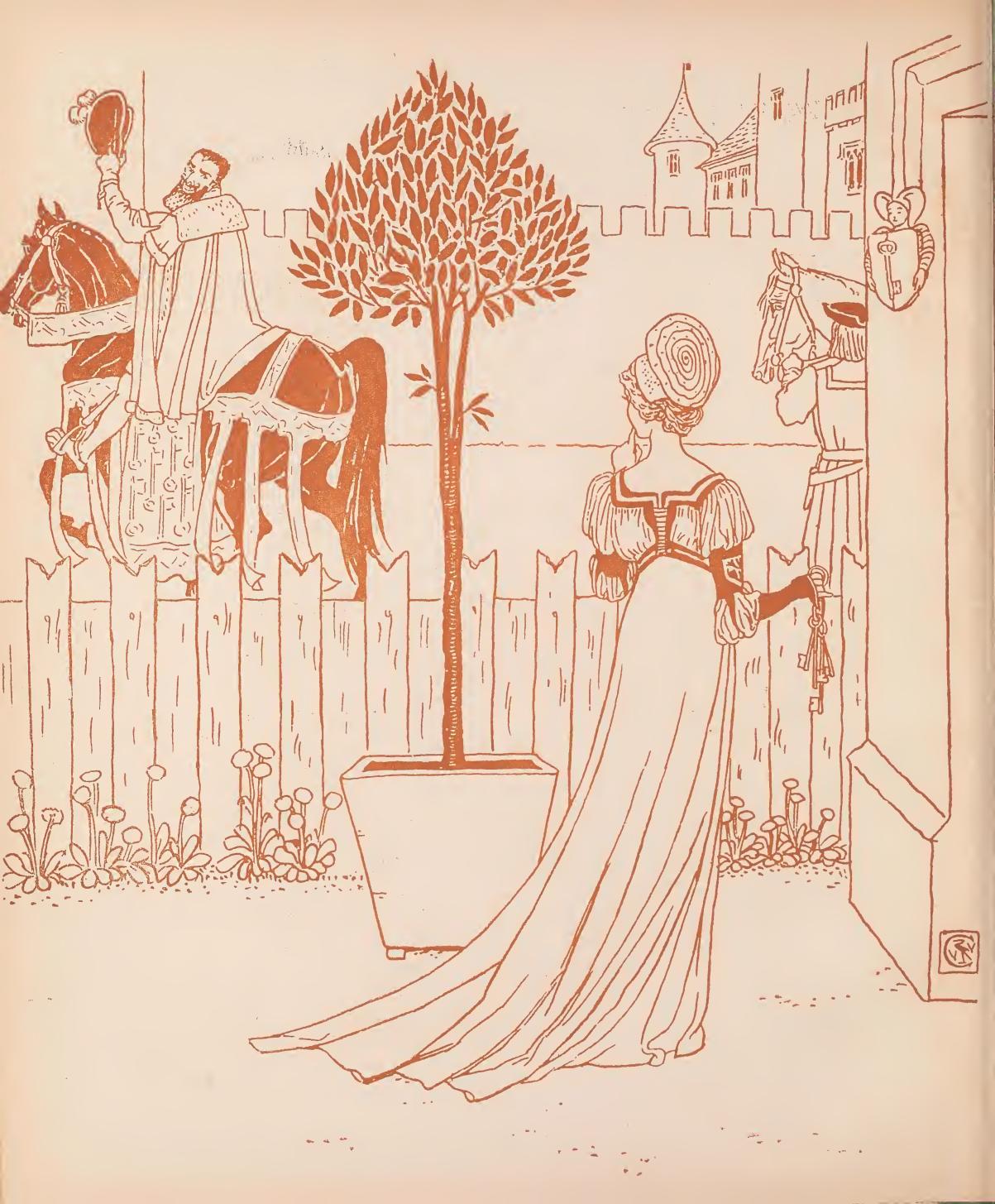




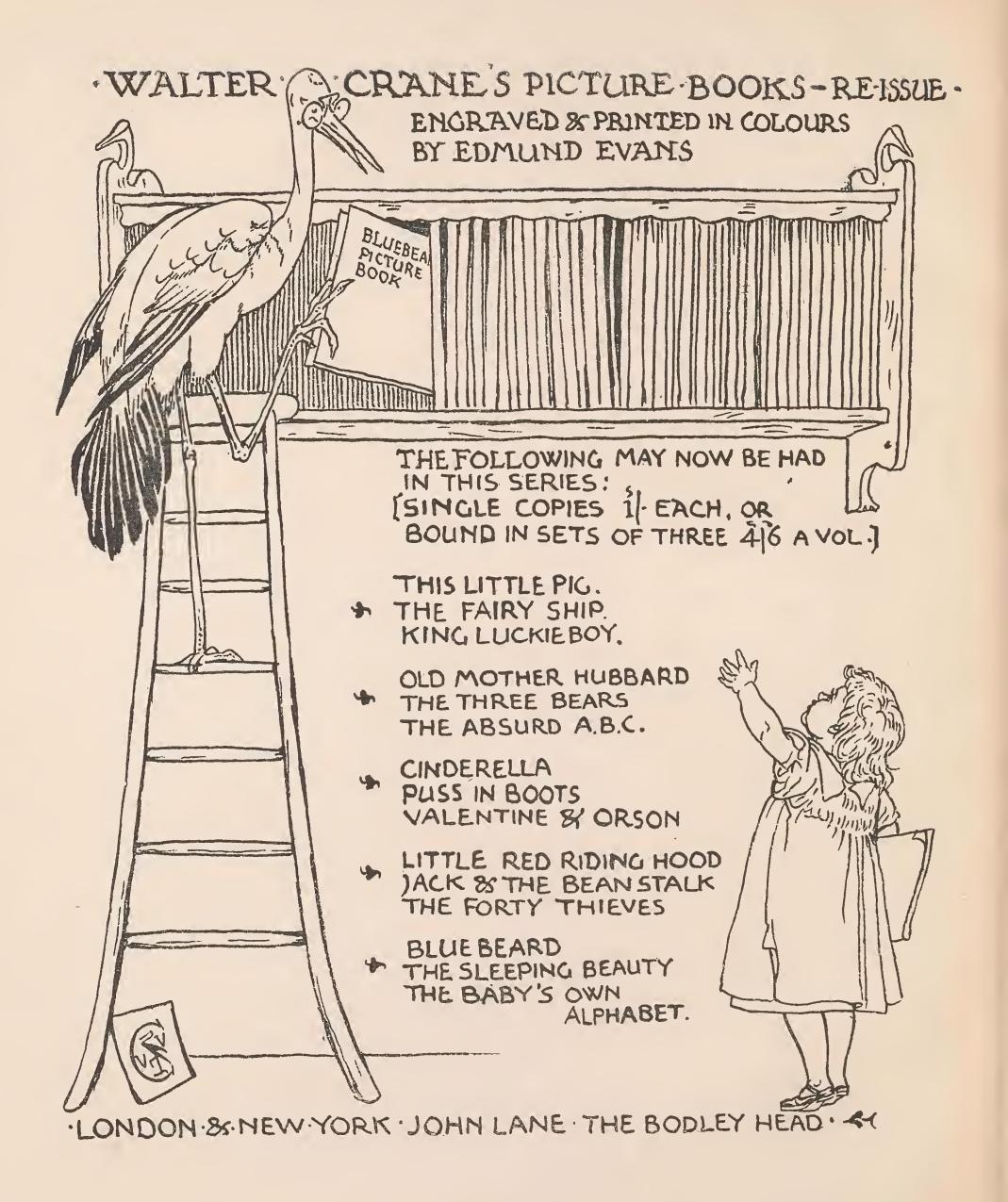
Streatley.on. Thames. Aug: 1899.





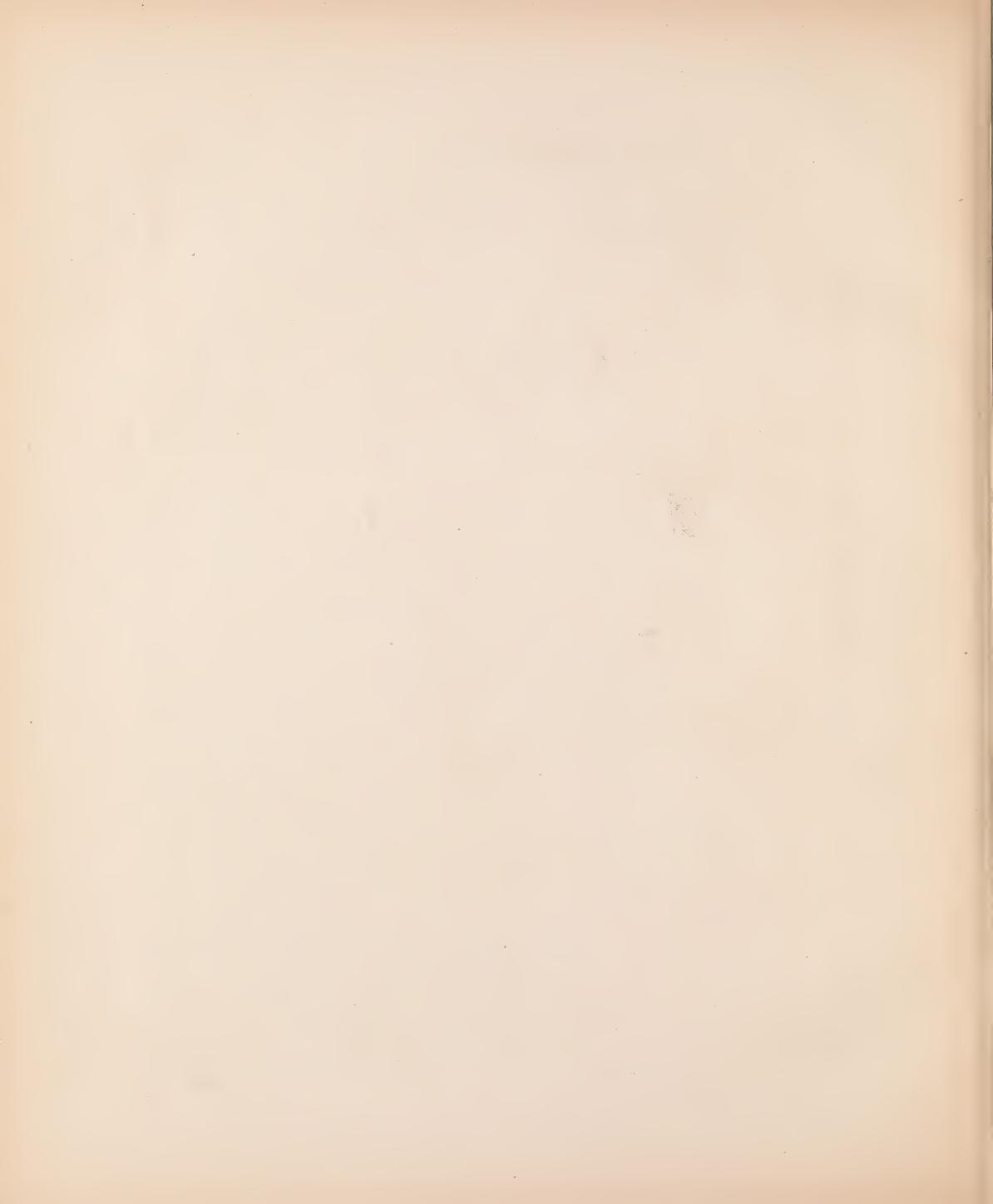
























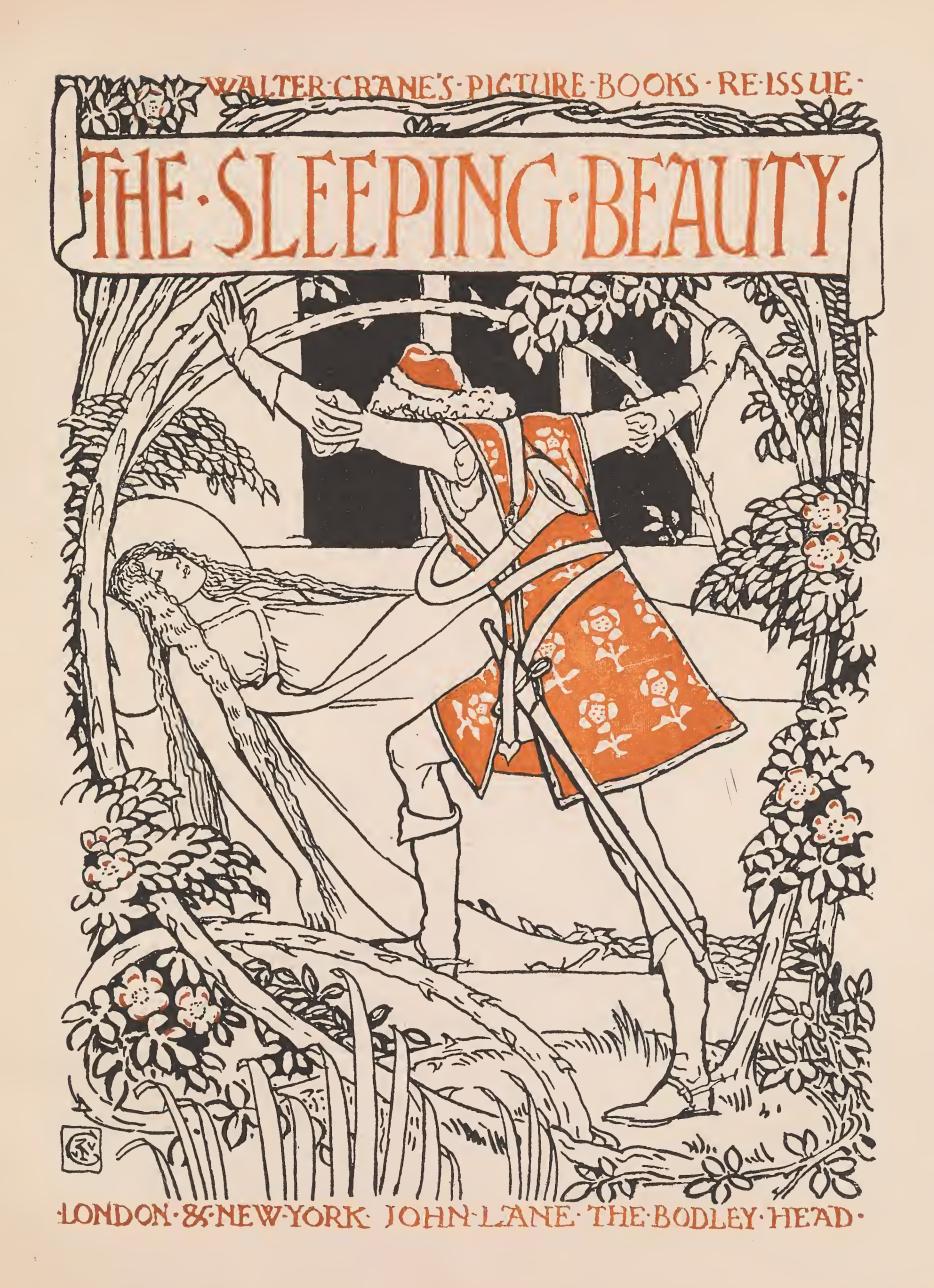
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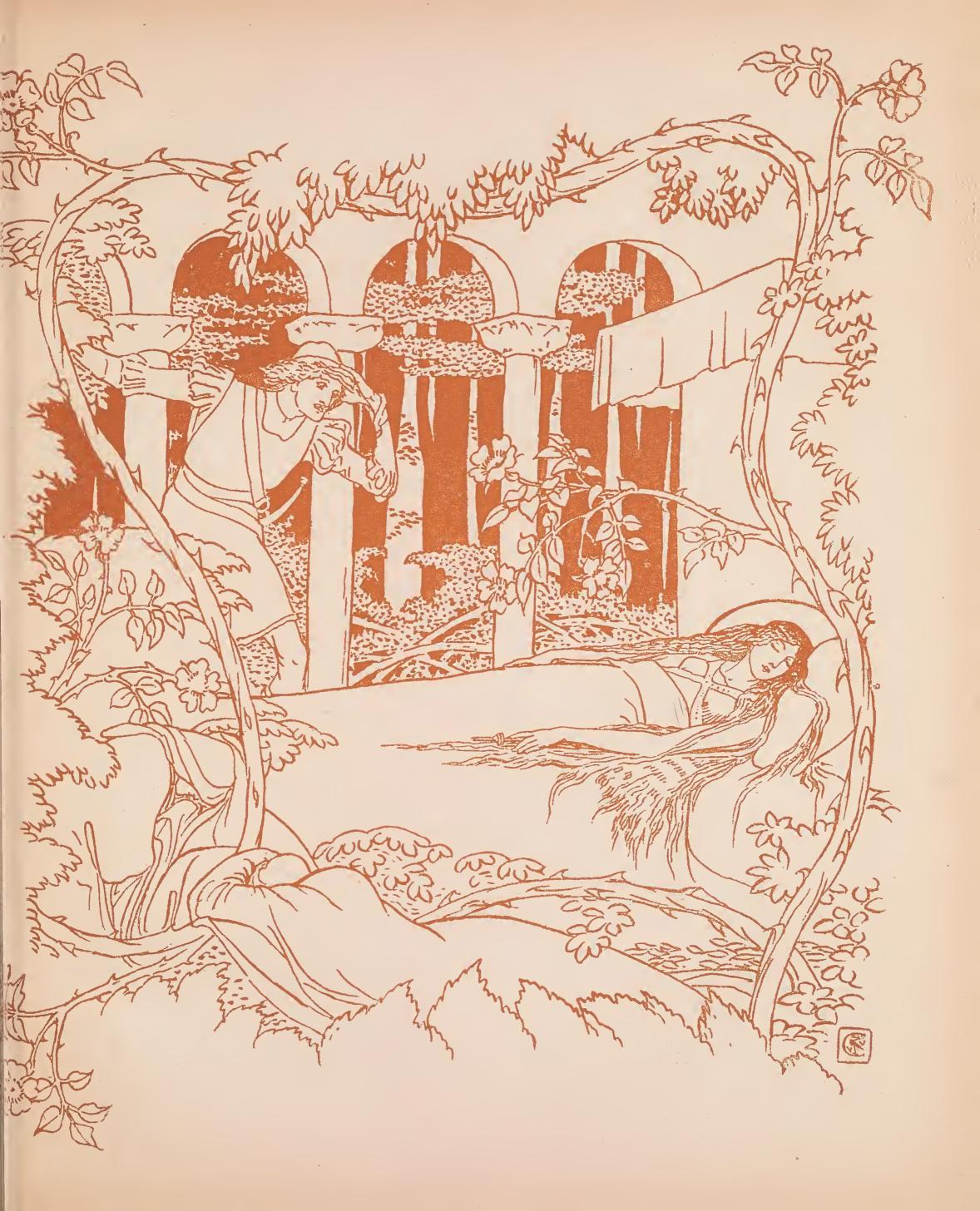




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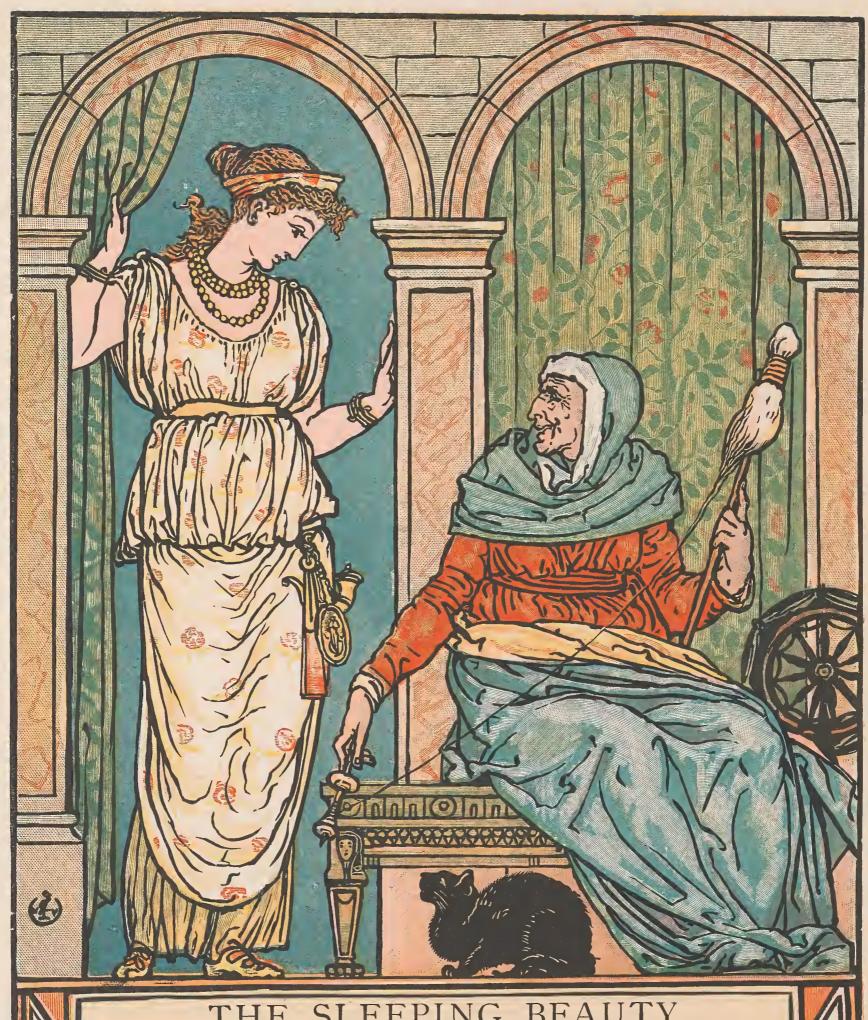






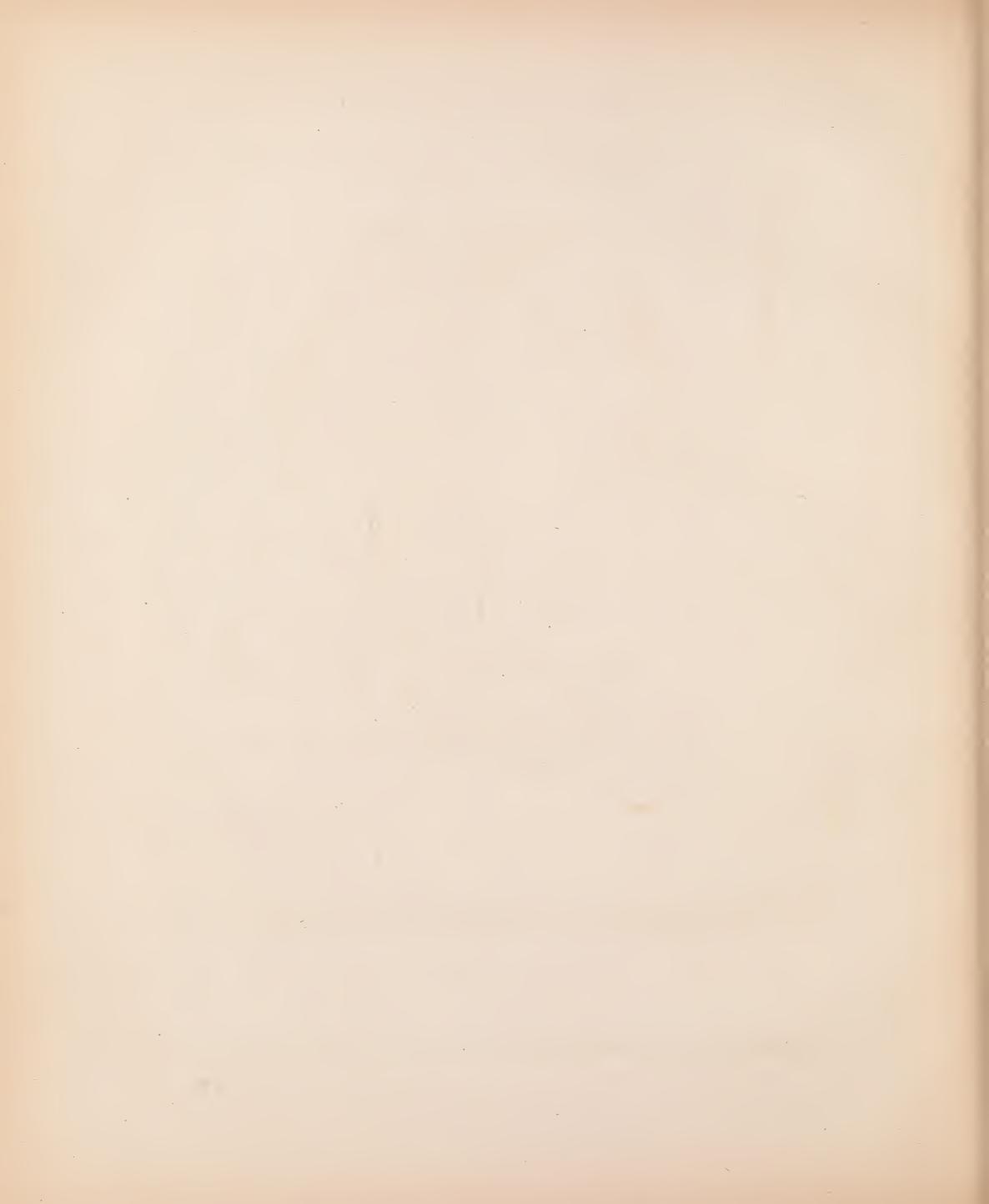


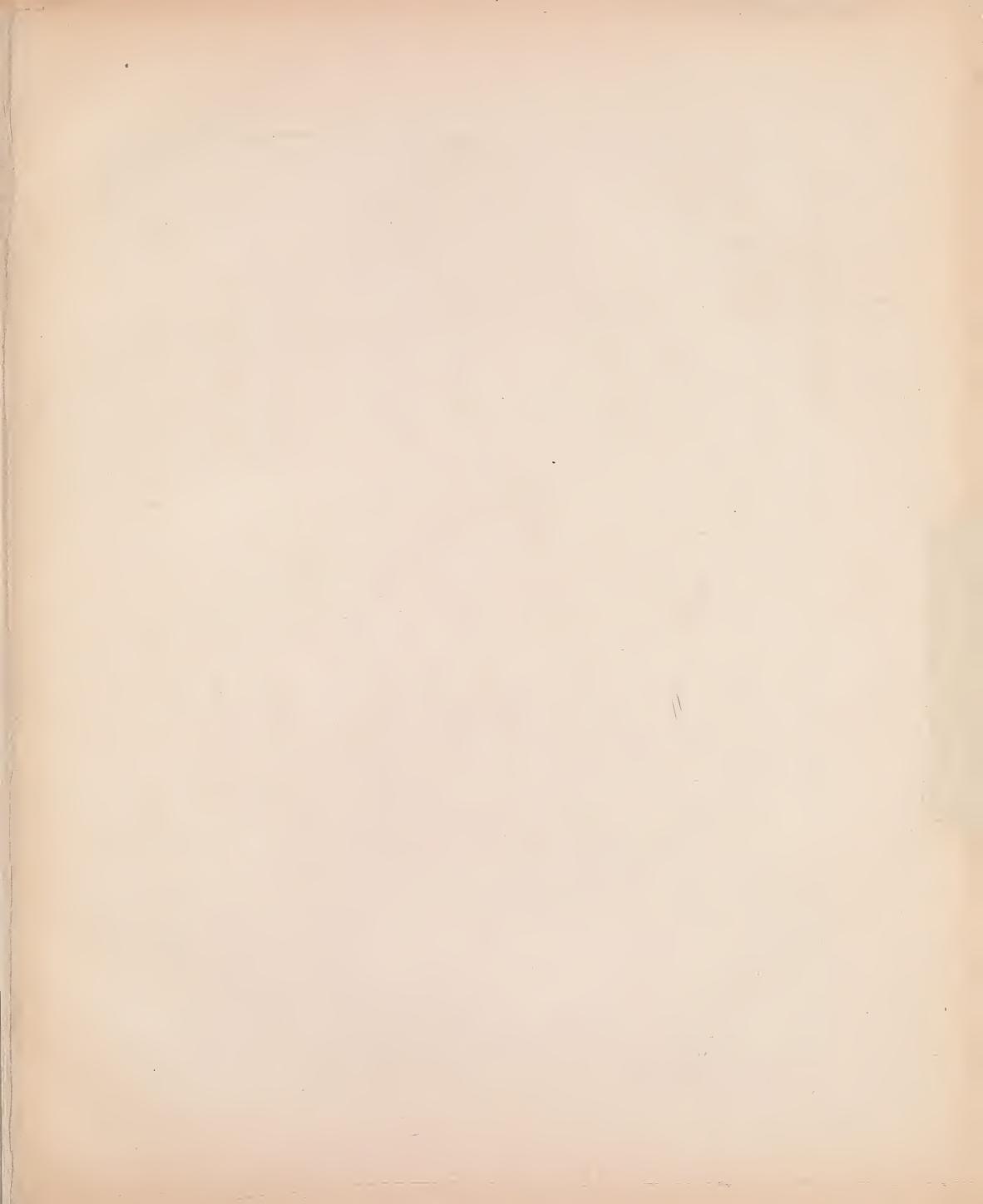
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L ONG, long ago, in ancient times, there lived a King and Queen, And for the blessing of a child their longing sore had been; At last, a little daughter fair, to their great joy, was given, And to the christening feast they made, they bade the Fairies seven—

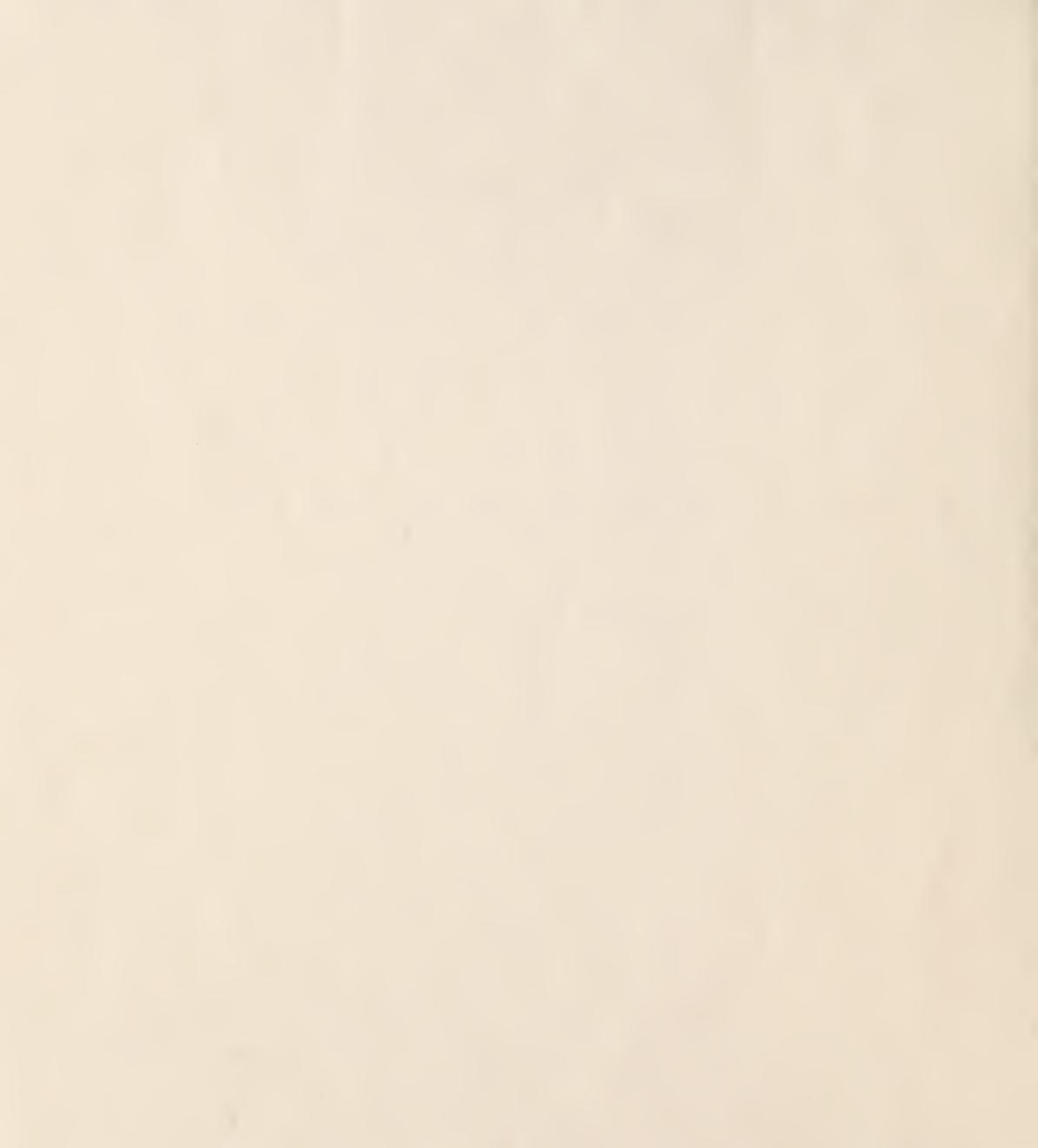


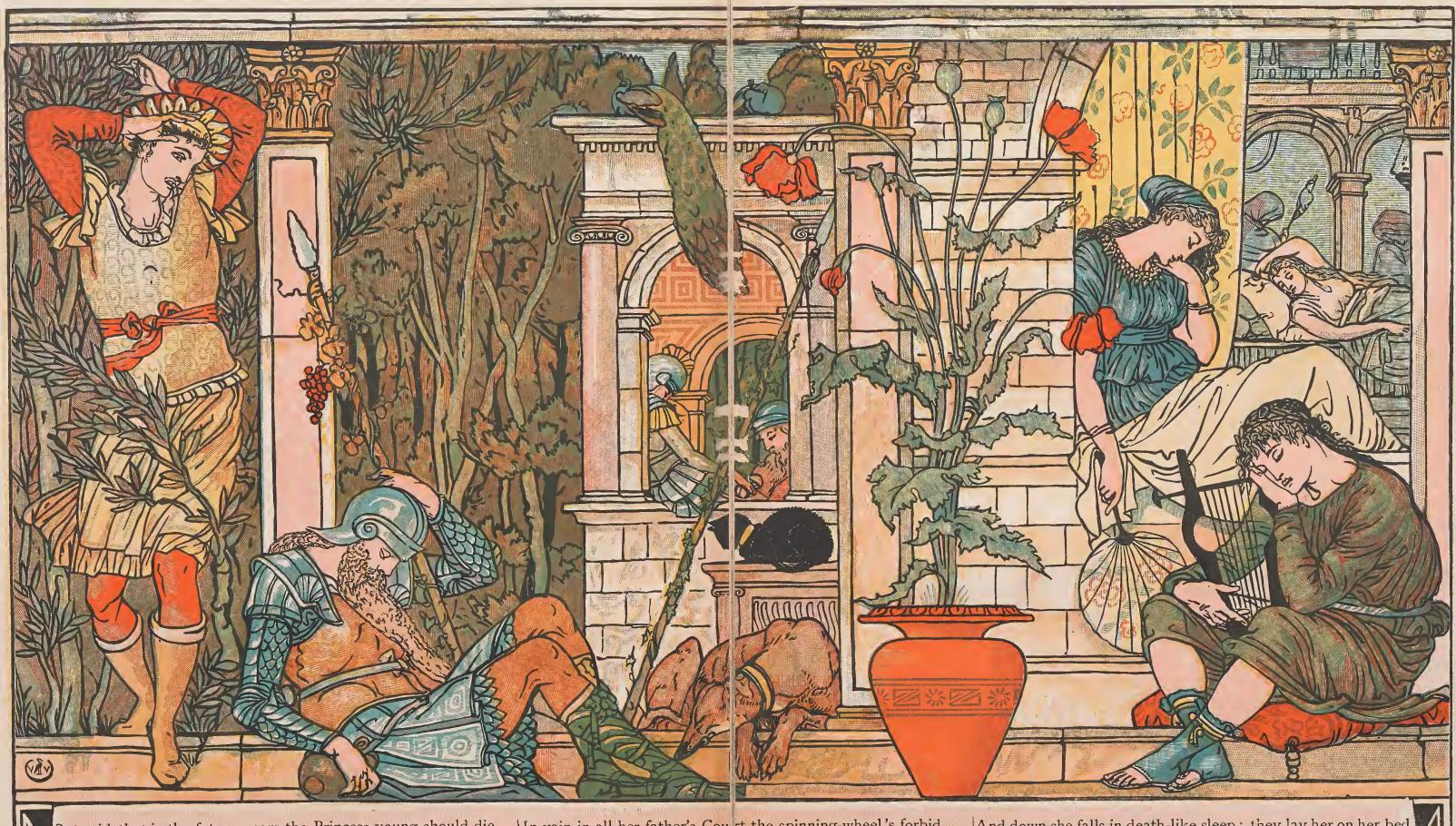






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But said, that in the future years the Princess young should die, By pricking of a spindle-point—ah, woeful prophecy!

But now, a kind young Fairy, who had waited to the last, [are past; But now, a kind young Fairy, who had waited to the last, [are past; But now, a kind young Fairy, who had waited to the last, [are past; But now, a kind young Fairy, who had waited to the last, [are past; But now, a kind young Fairy, who had waited to the last, [are past; But now, a kind young Fairy, who had waited to the last, [are past; Bro in a lonely turret high, and down she falls in death-like sleep: they lay her on her bed, And all around her sink to rest—a palace of the dead!

For in a lonely turret high, and up a winding stair, [care.] A hundred years pass—still they sleep, and all around the place of the dead!

There lives an ancient woman who still turns her wheel with A wood of thorns has risen up—no path a man can trace.

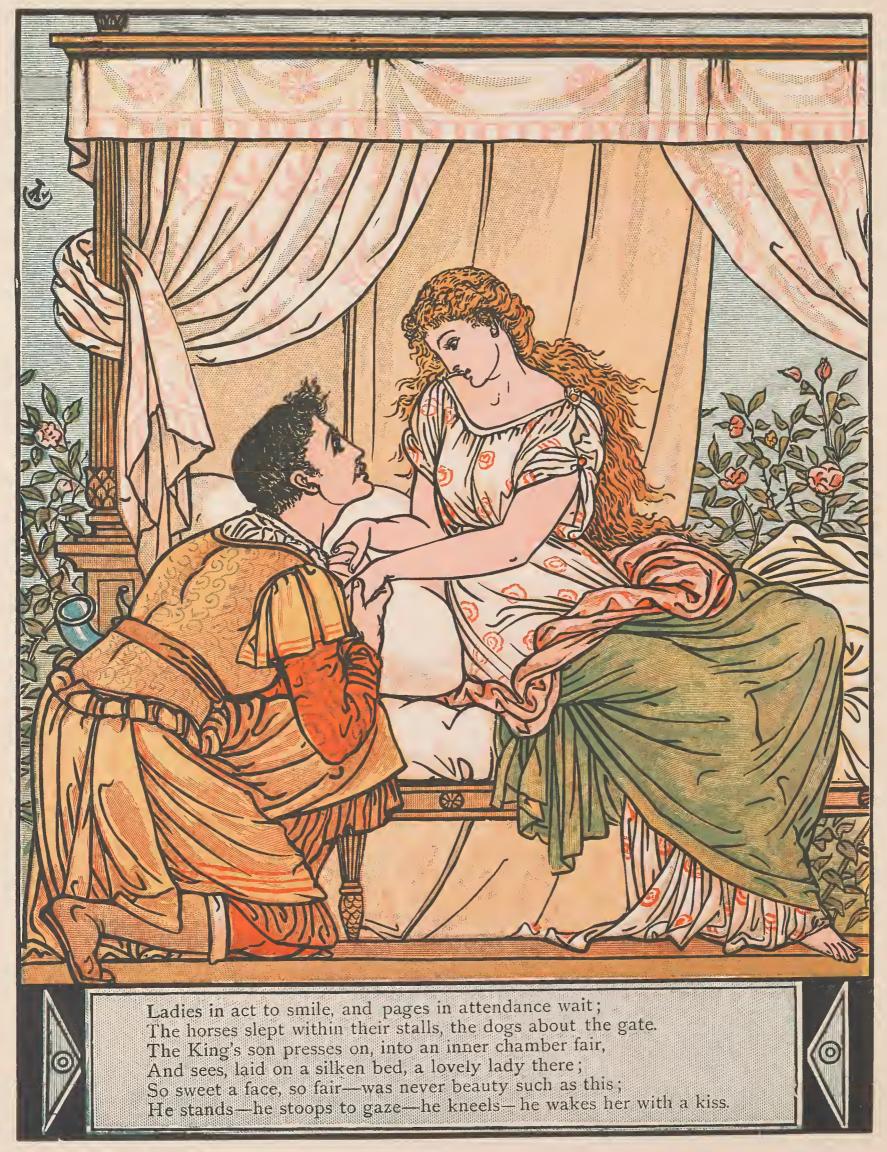
The Princess found her out or leday, and tried to learn to spin; At last, a King's son, in the hunt, asked how long it had stood, Alas! the spindle pricked her hand—the charm had entered in! And what old towers were those he saw above the ancient wood,

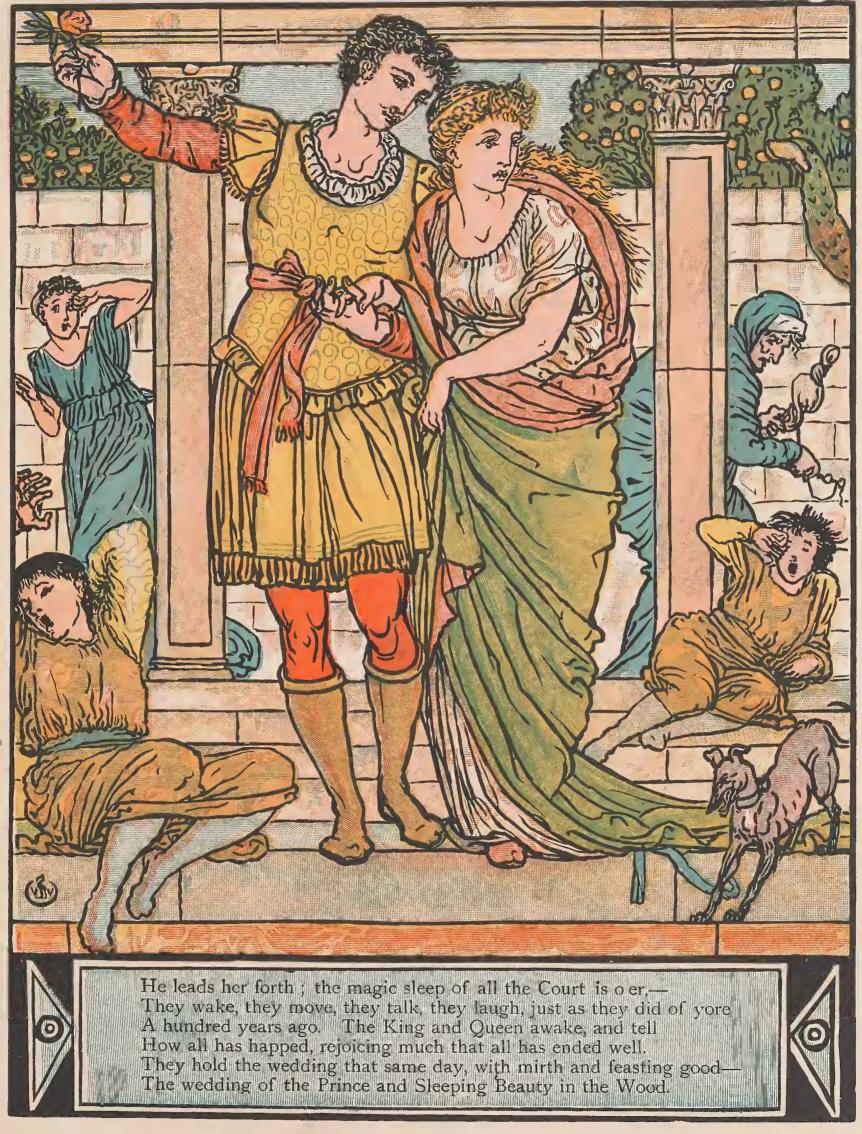


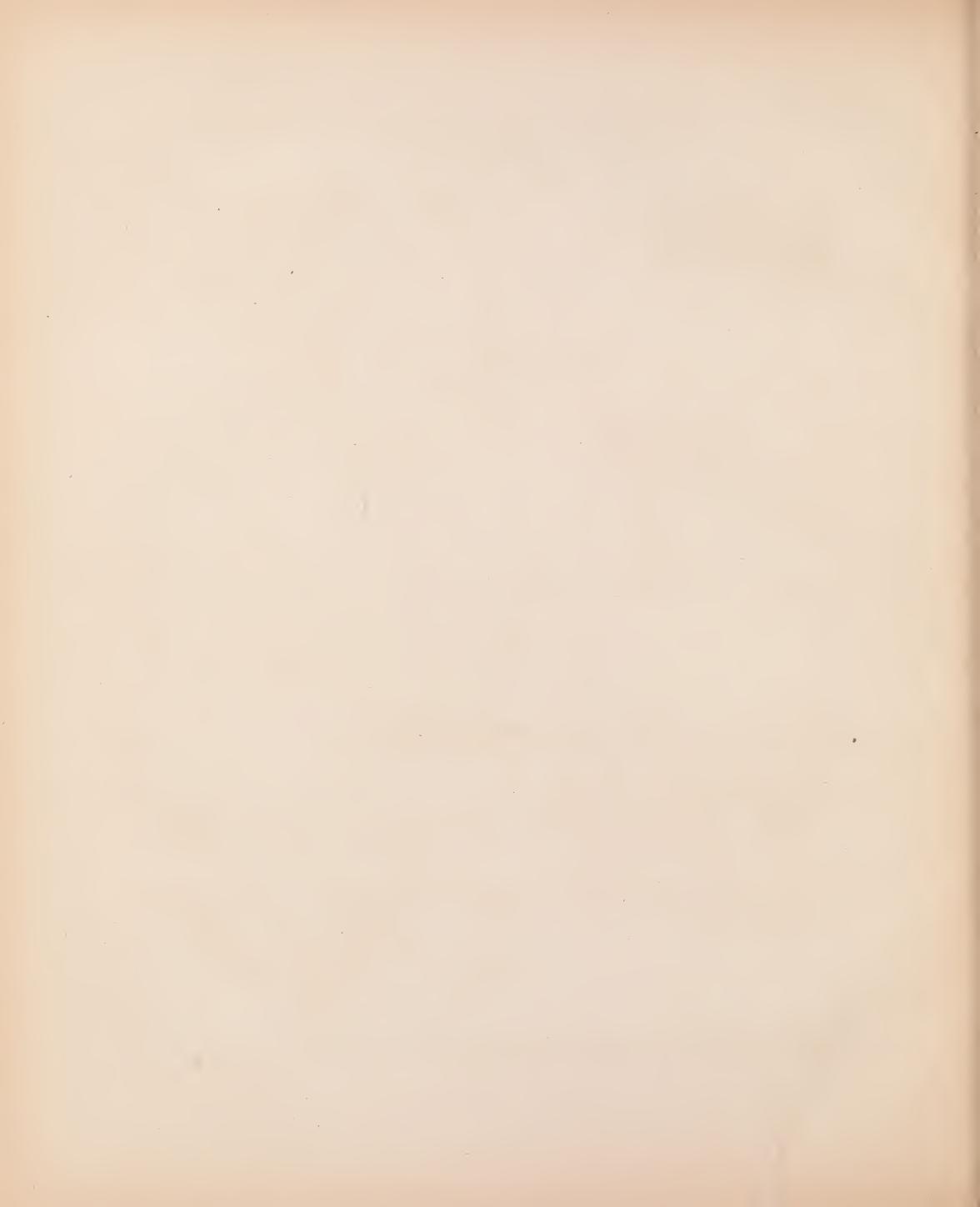


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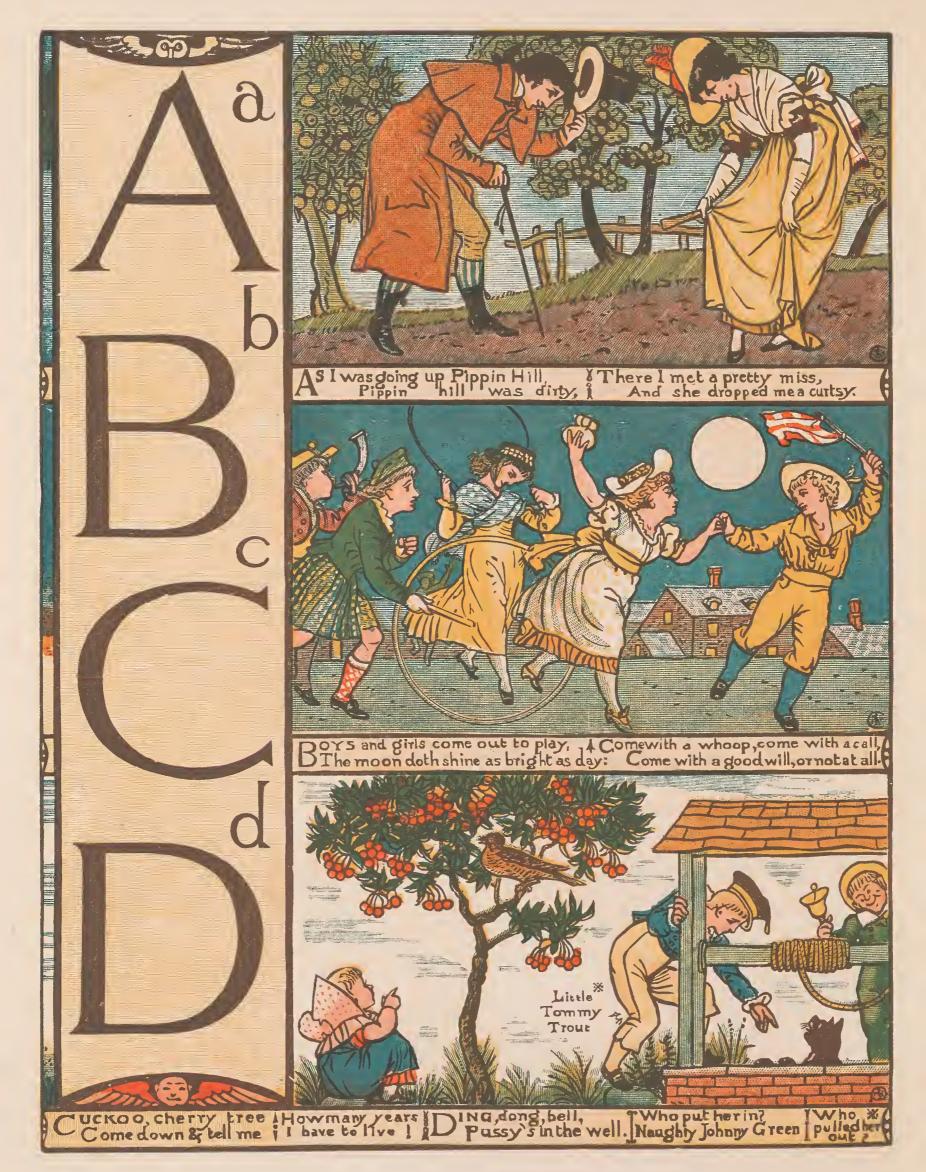
WALTER CRANE'S PICTURE BOOKS: RE-ISSUE -402

LONDON-&-NEW-YORK JOHN-LANE THE BODLEY HEAD

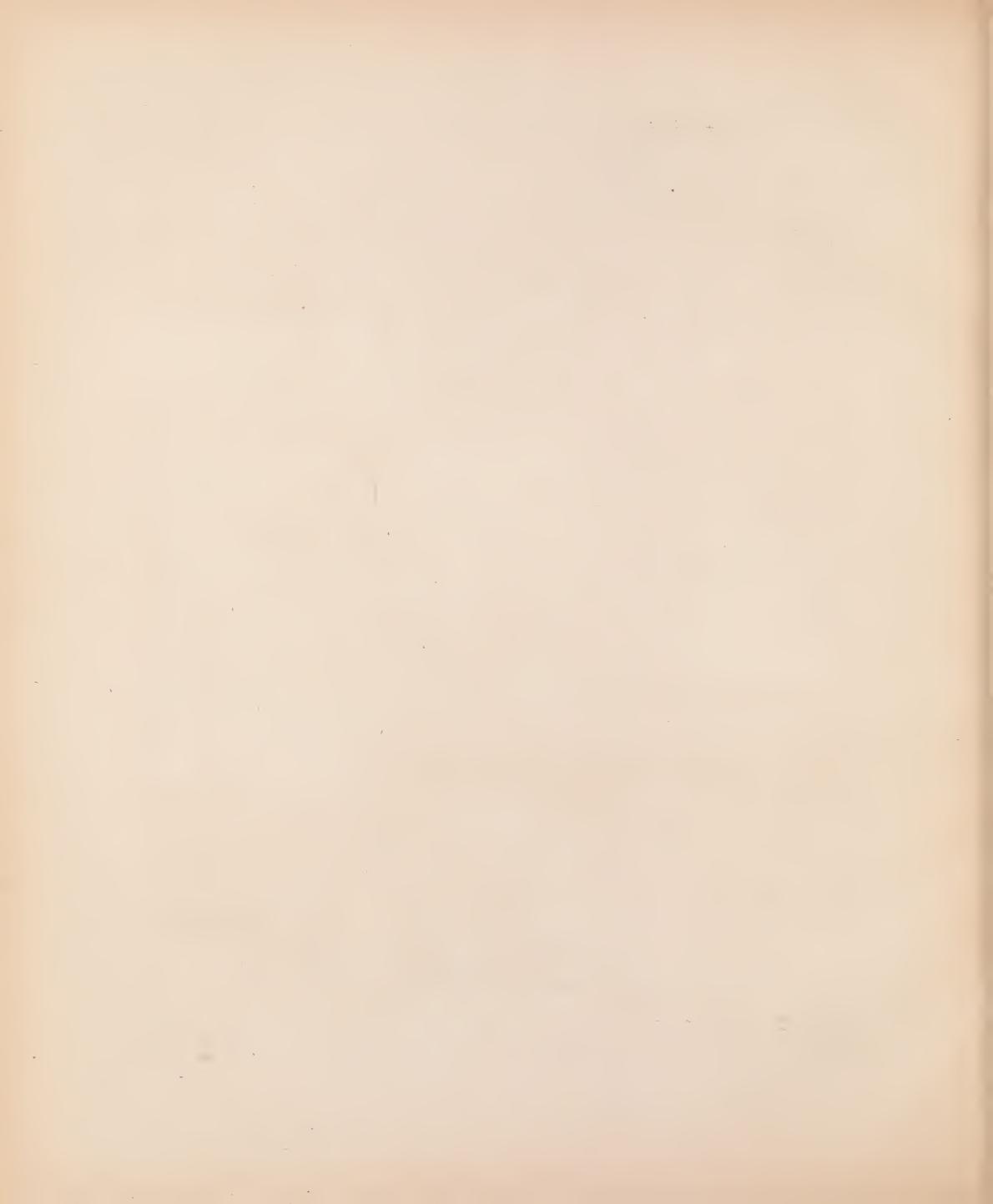












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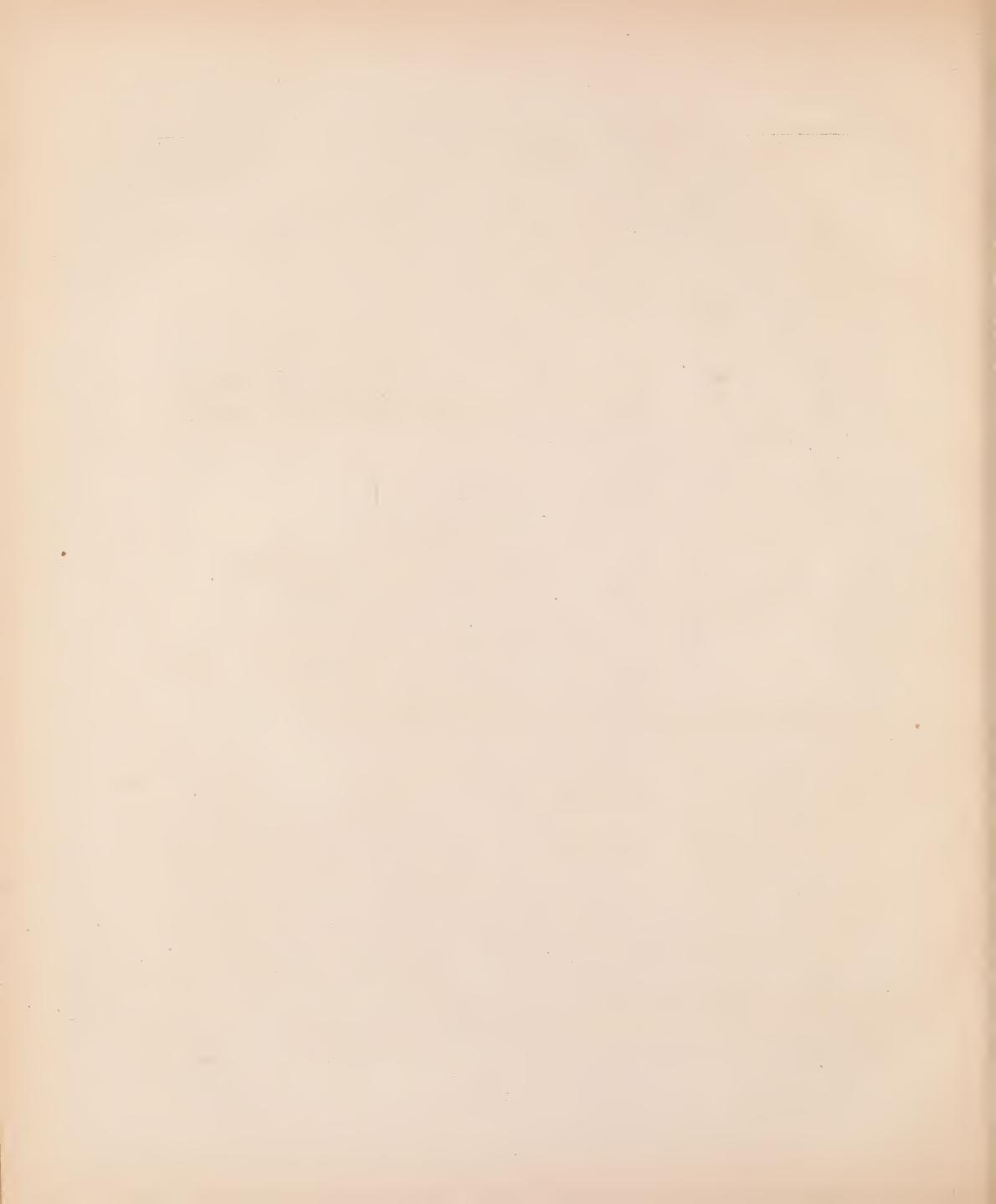




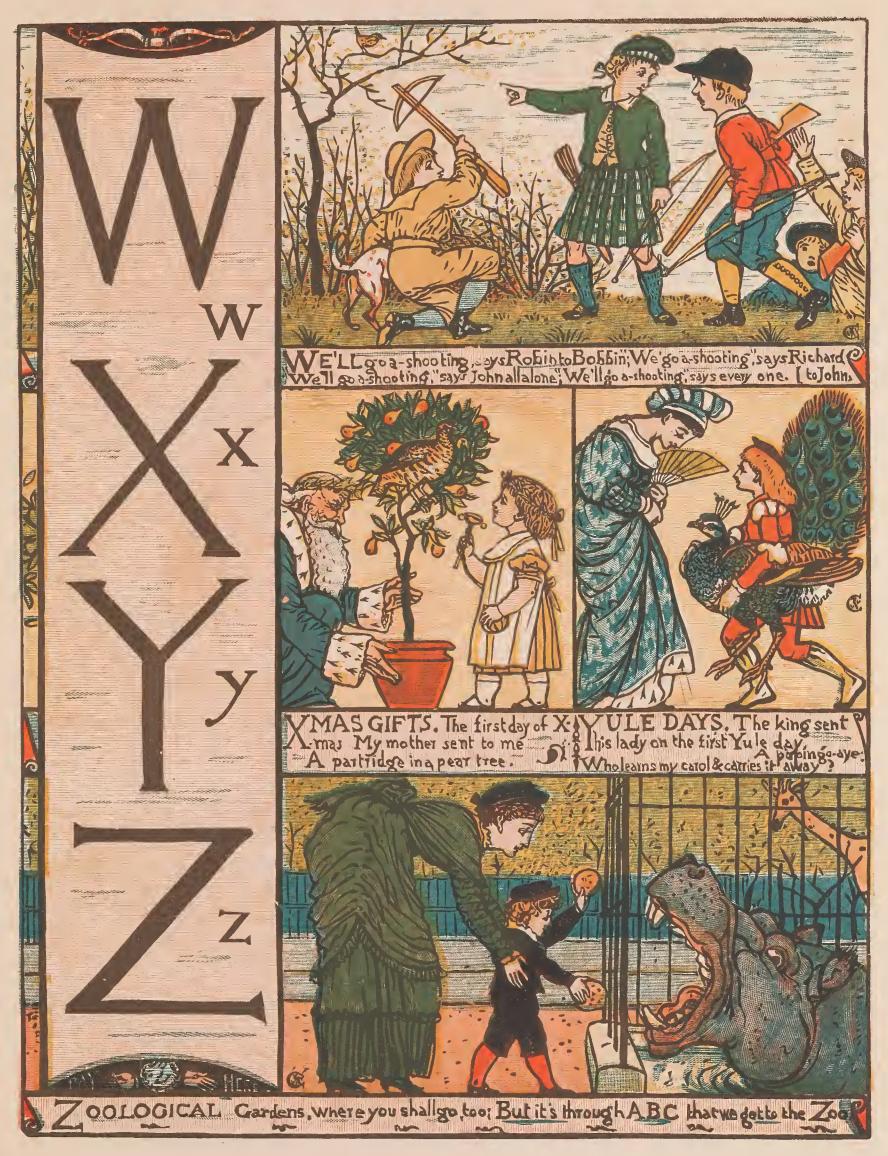


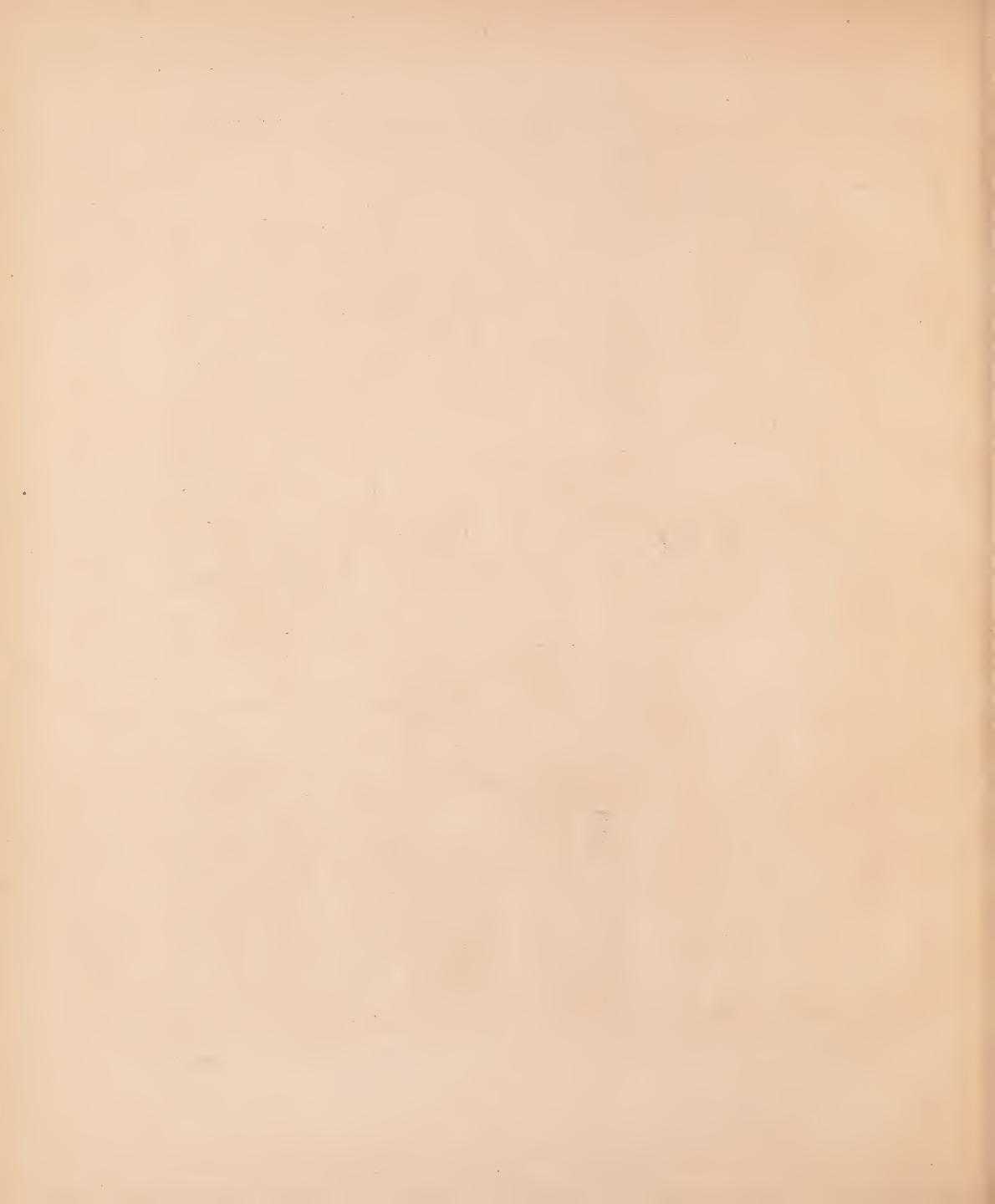






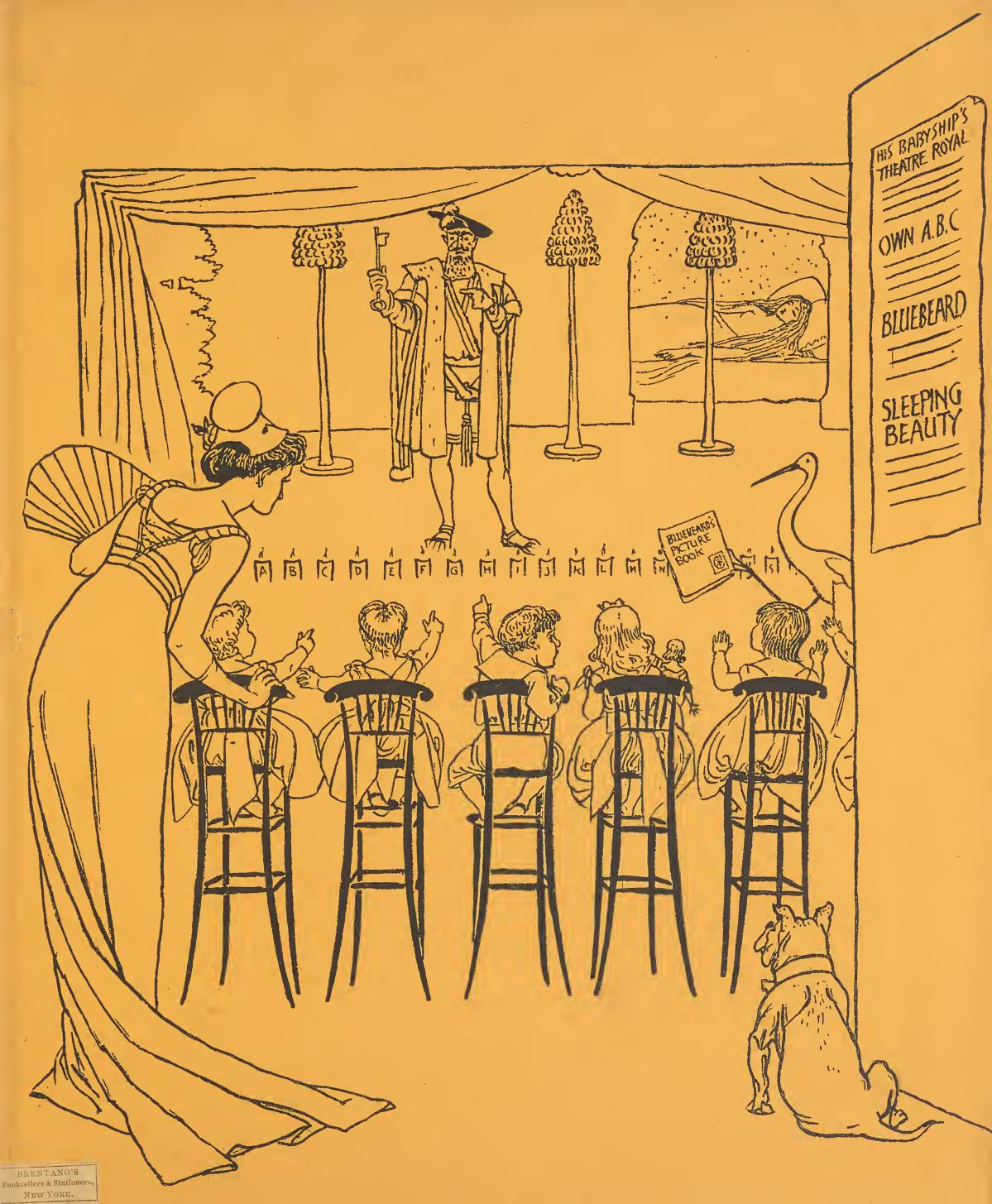












WALTER CRANES. PICTURE BOOKS.

